

Appl. No. : 09/252,842
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5017
R1

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A high throughput chemical screener comprising:
a chemical library comprising storage locations for at least approximately 3000 multi-well plates, each of which comprises at least approximately 96 individual chemical wells;
a computer controlled chemical well retriever for programmable selection and retrieval of selected ones of said chemical wells;
an automated, bi-directional, and parallel transport path coupled to said chemical library
for receiving chemicals from and returning chemicals to said chemical library,
wherein said transport path couples to at least one plate stacking storage buffer; and
a plurality of asynchronously operable automated liquid handling devices operatively coupled to said transport path, whereby said high throughput chemical screener can process at least approximately 25,000 chemical samples in a 24 hour period.

In Claim 6, first line, please delete "5" and insert therefor --1--.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) A device for rapidly screening samples containing a molecular target, comprising:
a screening sample transporter programmably controlled to facilitate parallel processing of a plurality of sample wells, and
at least one workstation storage operably linked to said screening sample transporter and programmably integrated to said screening sample transporter,
wherein said screening sample transporter is configured to transport said sample wells at a rate of at least 50,000 per day.

5017
R3

20. (ONCE AMENDED) A high throughput chemical screener comprising:
a chemical library comprising storage locations for at least approximately 1000 multi-well plates, each having a plurality of chemicals;
a computer controlled chemical retriever for programmable selection and retrieval of selected ones of said chemicals;
a parallel transport path coupled to said chemical library; and
a plurality of asynchronously operable automated liquid handling devices coupled to said transport path.